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NR: JCS 965740

22 SEP 59

From JCS.

Ref: JCS 96632, 201835Z Mar 59. *1172 Berlin (1959) (2)*

1. Reference message provided guidance to addressees regarding preparation for contingencies that might arise from the Berlin situation. That guidance remains substantially valid; however, the general situation has been modified by the exchange of visits by heads of governments.

2. With respect to military preparatory measures, there appears to be no need at this time to implement new measures for the specific purpose of demonstrating our intentions regarding Berlin. However, with a view to improving our over-all negotiating posture, we will continue those measures which demonstrate the political, military, economic, and psychological readiness of the Western Powers to respond vigorously to a Soviet challenge of any Western interests.

3. The basic Berlin problem remains unchanged; the Soviets have reiterated their demand for the acceptance of their "free city" proposal. It can be presumed that Soviet pressure on Berlin will increase in the future. Pursuant to Allied agreements detailed planning for maintaining our rights of access to Berlin, under the situation where the Soviets withdraw from their functions, is well underway.

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MESSAGE

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PAGE 2

4. In summary, the Soviets appear sufficiently convinced of our firmness on Berlin to make it unnecessary at this juncture to implement any additional military preparatory measures directly related to Berlin. Such measures could better be held in reserve for a deteriorating situation. We will continue to hold the line and see what negotiations produce. At the same time, we will complete and refine our plans and be ready for a further crisis that could occur after the first of the year.

ORIGIN: JCS
ACTION: DCSOP, AF, NAVY, CMC
DISTR: CSA

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